

# NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION



## Information Letter



FOR N. C. A. MEMBERS

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### Denies Rehearing in Tomato Paste Case

The Board of Appraisers has denied a rehearing in the case of Schroeder Bros., importers, who protested the Board's decision on the tariff classification of "Salsa di Pomodoro" making it dutiable as tomato paste at 40 per cent ad valorem. The Board's decision on the classification of this product was noted in Information Letters 143 and 145.

### Amos H. Cobb

The closing hours of the annual convention at Louisville were saddened by the illness of Amos H. Cobb, who was stricken shortly after presiding as chairman of the Fruit Section and who succumbed to an attack of pneumonia, in that city, on February 5. Mr. Cobb was Secretary of New York Canners, Inc., was a former director of the National Canners Association and had served as president of the Association of New York State Canners.

In Mr. Cobb's death the industry loses a man whose entire life was devoted to the industry, and the Association a member and active worker whose many talents were always freely given to the industry's betterment and progress.

### Simplification of Containers

In the brief report of the Louisville Convention given in last week's Information Letter mention was not made of the action taken with regard to simplification of containers. This subject was presented at meetings of the different sections, each of which adopted resolutions with regard to it. At the general session on Friday morning, a resolution was adopted approving the action of the various sections in appointing subcommittees and instructing the Board of Directors to organize these committees with the purpose in view of furthering this work.

### Proposed Legislation of Interest to Cannery

**MISBRANDING.**—A bill (H. R. 3904) is now pending in Congress to prohibit the sale or shipment in interstate or foreign commerce of any merchandise which is misbranded. The term misbranding is given such a broad definition that it would apply to the name of the article and to almost every descriptive statement regarding it. The enforcement of the provisions of the bill would be placed in the Federal Trade Commission. The bill would not amend or modify in any way the Food and Drugs Act, which covers misbranding, as well as adulteration, of foods. The House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce has reported favorably on the bill.

**TARIFF ON PEAS.**—Senate Bill 2920, introduced by Senator Stanfield of Oregon, provides for a duty of 4 cents per pound on "peas prepared or preserved in any manner", which would include canned peas. Under the present Tariff Act the duty on such peas is 2 cents per pound.

**CORN SUGAR.**—The Cummins Bill (S. 481), which would amend the Food and Drug Act so as to permit the use of corn sugar in sweetening or preserving foods without requiring that the label of such foods bear a statement that corn sugar has been used, was passed by the Senate on January 30. A similar measure is pending in the House.

**BILLS OF LADING.**—In H. R. 6359, which proposes to amend the Interstate Commerce Act, it is provided that the Commission shall have the right to extend the period of suspension of railroad tariff schedules beyond the period of 120 days provided in the present act. Prior to the Transportation Act of 1920, the law provided that if the Commission was unable to make the necessary investigation and determination of cases within 120 days it could extend the effective date of the tariffs for a further period not exceeding six months, and the proposed measure would restore this provision.

In another bill (H. R. 6363) it is proposed to amend the Act of 1916 relating to bills of lading, by providing that where goods are loaded on cars at depots, or other points where carriers customarily receive shipments, carriers shall count the packages or ascertain the kind and quantity of freight consigned. Under the present law carriers are required to do this only where they load the freight, and where shippers load carload freight the carriers may require the shipper to accept the bill of lading including an endorsement that the contents of the car are shipper's weight, load and count, and thus deny responsibility for

shortage at destination. Another provision of this bill would oblige the carrier to state the correct date of shipment on a shipper's to-order bill of lading. The present law requires the carrier to give in such a bill of lading only a description of the goods.

**Wholesale Grocers Express Appreciation to N. C. A.**

At its annual meeting in January, the Oklahoma Wholesale Grocers Association adopted a resolution extending to the National Canners Association "an expression of appreciation for the cooperation they have given in advancing the welfare of the Wholesale Grocers Association of this State", and further expressing appreciation of "the splendid work they have done in increasing the consumption of canned foods through the medium of National Canned Foods Week".

**Michigan and New York Bean Crop**

The bean crop in Michigan and New York in 1925 is estimated by the U. S. Department of Agriculture at 9,715,000 bushels, as compared with 8,462,000 bushels in 1924. Of this quantity, the crop of recleaned or hand-picked beans will be from 7,500,000 to 8,000,000 bushels, about the same as in 1924. About 5,500,000 bushel of the cleaned beans in both years were pea beans.

**Paper Wrapped Packages**

The U. S. Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce has issued an illustrated bulletin, prepared by the Transportation Division, containing the recommendations of the Advisory Board on Domestic Packing of the U. S. Department of Commerce, on packing materials and packing methods for parcel post and express shipments. Copies of the bulletin (Domestic Commerce Series No. 3) may be obtained from the Bureau at 5 cents each.

**Bulletin on Variations in Pea Varieties**

In continuation of work carried on and reported in 1924, the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva has issued a bulletin on "Variations in Varieties of Canning Peas". The bulletin gives the comparative studies made of 51 varieties known to be, or hoped to be, suitable for commercial canning. Copies of the bulletin, listed as No. 532, may be obtained by addressing the Station.

### Efficiency of Airplane Dusting

The U. S. Bureau of Entomology reports that at Montezuma, Ga., comparative tests have been made on large peach orchards with airplanes and ground power dusters. By means of the airplane dusters it was possible to apply the combined insecticidal and fungicidal dust very rapidly. About 5,000 trees were dusted per hour, including the time required to return to the landing field and reload. The final results from airplane-dusted peach trees as compared with results from trees dusted with ground machines indicate practically as good control of the curculio by the one method as by the other.

### Mexican Bean Beetle Laboratory Moved

The Mexican bean beetle laboratory of the U. S. Bureau of Entomology has been transferred from Birmingham, Ala., to Columbus, Ohio, in order that the insect might be studied throughout the year under more northern conditions.

### Inspection of Cultures

The U. S. Bureau of Plant Industry in its annual report states that in examining commercial cultures for legume inoculation 5 out of 14 brands were found to be of poor quality, and the firms responsible for their manufacture have been advised.

Four inoculants for non-legumes have been found on the market in the United States. These have been tested or are under test at the present time. None have given the results claimed for them, and two have been found to be practically worthless. Two foreign non-legume inoculants, the promoters of which are seeking a market in America, are being examined.

### Recommends Liquid Lime-Sulphur Sprays

The Department of Agriculture after three years of trials of a number of dry lime-sulphur substitutes has issued a statement that horticulturists and orchardists who are obliged to fight the San Jose scale will find it to their advantage to stick to the liquid lime-sulphur or mineral-oil sprays.

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Final statistics of the salmon pack in British Columbia in 1925 place it at 1,719,687 cases, as compared with 1,747,505 in 1924 and 1,341,677 in 1923.

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With this issue of the Information Letter members will receive the third number of Volume III of Abstracts of Canning Technology.